

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A weft knitted fabric, comprising:
a plurality of visually distinct regions; and
a plurality of visually indistinct regions interspersed with said plurality of distinct regions, said plurality of visually indistinct regions being defined by holes in the fabric, each hole having a lower course-wise edge defined by one or more consecutive pressed-off loops on a first course, an upper course-wise edge defined by a second course succeeding said first course, and a pair of walewise constructions located adjacent to the pressed-off loops to define the course-wise extent of one of said holes, each wale construction being of a miss-knit structure having immediately adjacent the hole a held loop extending between a third course preceding said first course and the second course or a course succeeding the second course.
2. The fabric according to claim 1, wherein said third course is spaced from said first course by at least one intermediate course.
3. The fabric according to claim 1, wherein said third course is spaced from said first course by two intermediate courses.
4. The fabric according to claim 3, wherein said first course is knit under low tension and a course immediately preceding said first course is knit under high tension to define an anchorage course.

5. The fabric according to claim 4, wherein the yarn which ends said first course has a yarn that ends said first course, said yarn being textured .

6. The fabric according to claim 4, wherein the anchorage course is knit using a yarn capable of frictionally gripping the pressed-off loops on said first course.

7. The fabric according to claim 4, wherein the yarn from which the anchorage course is knit comprises a non-stretch yarn plated with a bare elastomeric yarn.

8. The fabric according to claim 7, wherein the anchorage course and wherein the course immediately preceding the anchorage course is knit with a non-stretch yarn plated with a bare elastomeric yarn.

9. The fabric according to claim 8, wherein the fabric is heat set to cause the bare elastomeric yarn on the anchorage course and the course immediately preceding the anchorage course to bond to itself at points of contact.

10. A weft knit fabric, comprising:

a plurality of visually distinct regions; and

a plurality of visually indistinct regions interspersed with said plurality of visually distinct regions, said plurality of visually indistinct regions being defined by holes in the fabric, each hole having a lower course-wise edge defined by one or more consecutive pressed-off loops on a first given course, an upper course-wise edge defined by a second course succeeding said first course, said first course being knit under a low tension

and the two courses immediately preceding said first course being knit under a high tension, at least one of said two courses being knit from a non-stretchable yarn plated with a bare elastomeric yarn.

11. The fabric according to claim 10, wherein both of said two courses are knit from a non-stretchable yarn plated with a bare elastomeric yarn.

12. The fabric according to claim 11, wherein the fabric is heat set to cause the bare elastomeric yarn to bond at points of contact on said two courses.

13. The fabric according to claim 12, wherein the non-stretchable yarn used to knit a course immediately preceding the first course is cotton or similar hairy yarn.

14. A weft knit garment, comprising:
a plurality of visually distinct regions; and
a plurality of visually indistinct regions interspersed with said plurality of visually distinct regions, said plurality of visually indistinct regions being defined by holes in the fabric, such that an open fabric effect that is sufficiently stable against run-back is achieved, said fabric being knit from a lightweight yarn to visually look like lace and have substantially similar weight per unit as lace.